DC ENTERTAINMENT™
#1
HE-MAN AND THE MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE™
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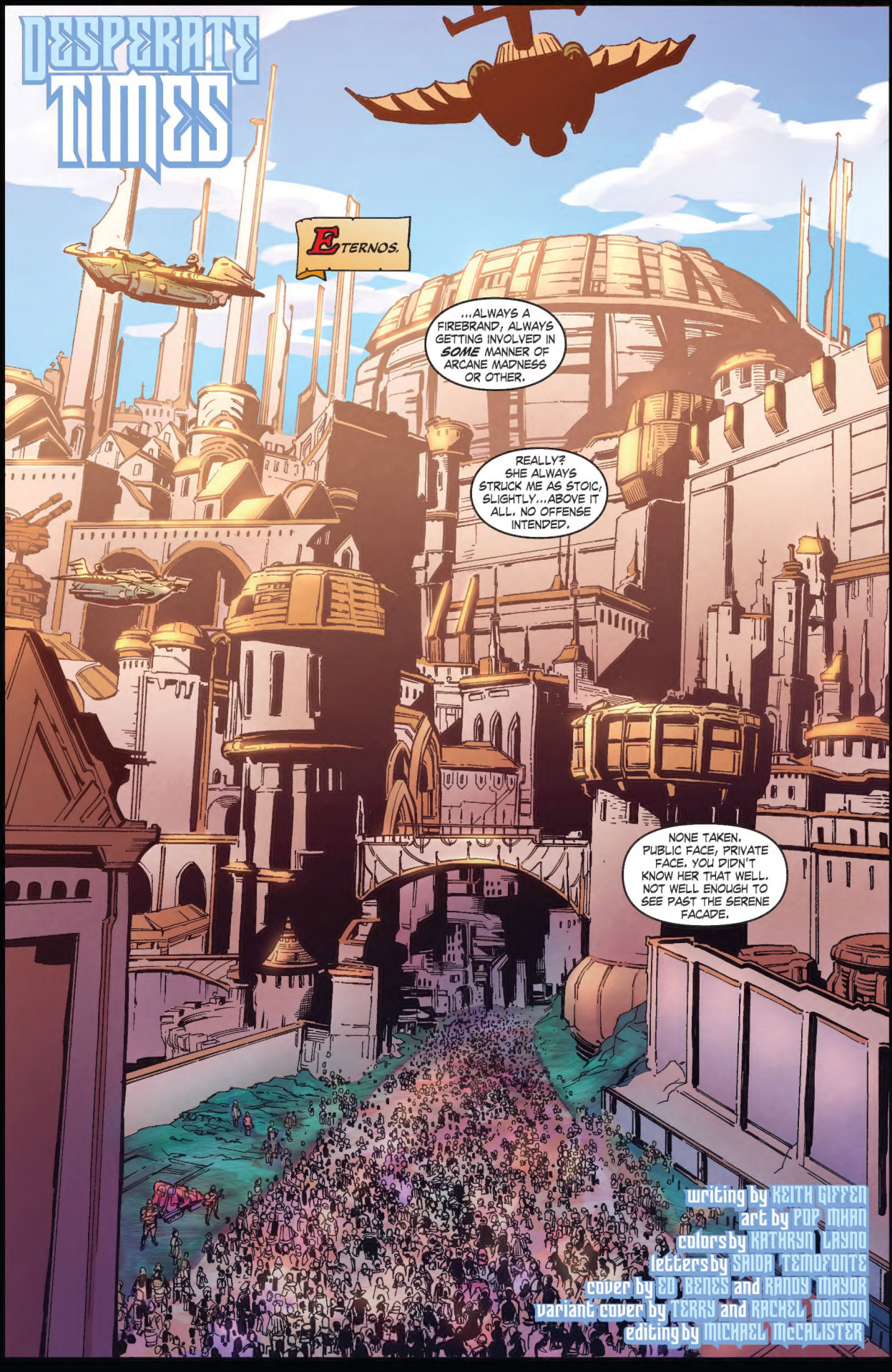
DESPERATE TIMES
ETERNOS.
...ALWAYS A FIREBRAND, ALWAYS GETTING INVOLVED IN SOME MANNER OF ARCANE MADNESS OR OTHER.
REALLY? SHE ALWAYS STRUCK ME AS STOIC, SLIGHTLY...ABOVE IT ALL. NO OFFENSE INTENDED.
NONE TAKEN. PUBLIC FACE, PRIVATE FACE. YOU DIDN'T KNOW HER THAT WELL. NOT WELL ENOUGH TO SEE PAST THE SERENE FACADE.
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TEELA TAKES AFTER HER. THE APPLE DID NOT FALL FAR FROM THE TREE; LET ME TELL YOU THAT.
AND YET YOU KEPT IT FROM HER; THE FACT THAT THE SORCERESS WAS HER MOTHER--
AS DID YOU.
THAT WAS NOT MY TALE TO TELL.
NOR MINE, IF THE SORCERESS WAS TO BE BELIEVED.
YOU'RE HER FATHER.
BECAUSE I COULD BE.
AND THE SORCERESS COULDN'T? SHE HAD NO DESIRE TO BE TEELA'S MOTHE--
THE DESIRE WAS THERE. HER... RESPONSIBILITIES... THERE WAS NO WAY SHE COULD BE A FIT MOTHER AND SHE KNEW IT.
AH.
BETTER A LOVING MOTHER WHO DIED AT BIRTH THAN A MOTHER WHO--
I GET IT. KIND OF.
ODD LOT, MAGES. I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN BETTER.
AND IF YOU HAD KNOWN BETTER.
I NEVER STOPPED LOVING HER.
YOU HID IT WELL.
LIKE I HAD A CHOICE.

FATHER.
DAUGHTER.
ADAM.
WHAT DID YOU DO TO YOUR HAI--
YOU DO *NOT* WANT TO GO THERE.
WELL IT CERTAINLY SUITS YOUR TEMPERAMENT.
SECOND WARNING.
TEELA, YOU CAN'T JUST SHOW UP WITH A HEAD OF RED HAIR AND EXPECT US TO PRETEND WE DON'T NOTICE.
THEN AGAIN...
DON'T GIVE *ME* THAT LOOK. I HAVEN'T SAID A WORD.
YET.
THAT REMINDS ME, THE ROYAL ROOSTER--
THERE'S A ROYAL ROOSTER?
THERE IS NOW.
YOU'LL NEVER SEE IT COMING...

...THAT HER ESSENCE BECOME ONE WITH ZOAR, THE FONT FROM WHICH ALL GRACE FLOWS, THAT SHE MIGHT KNOW OF AND SHARE IN THE POWER AND THE GLORY THAT BINDS ETERNIA TO THE INFINITE.

MAY HER ESSENCE BECOME ONE WITH THE DIVINE PRESENCE; BLESSED CREATOR, BENEFICENT PROVIDER, ETERNAL GUARDIAN.

MAY YOU KNOW PEACE, TEELA NA, EXALTED SEER, SORCERESS EMERITUS OF THE INNER CIRCLE.

THUS ARE WE GATHERED HERE TODAY TO HONOR THE MEMORY OF...

TEELA NA. I NEVER KNEW HER REAL NAME.
NAMES HAVE POWER, OR SO THE MAGES CLAIM. GIVE ME GAS, THE LOT OF THEM.
MAGES?
EVERY LAST ONE.
EVEN...?
DIDN'T LIKE HER WHEN SHE WAS ALIVE. HER BEING DEAD CHANGES NOTH!--
WAITASEC! DID HE SAY "TEELA?"
YOU NAMED ME AFTER HER!?
SH! SH! NOT HERE! NOT NOW!
I THINK IT'S AN ANCIENT DIALECT; MEANS "SHE OF THE FLAMING LOCKS" OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
CHUK
HK!
IT'S ALL RIGHT. HE'S JUST... OVERCOME WITH GRIEF. YOU KNOW HOW SENSITIVE HE IS, RIGHT ADAM?
GRGL...
THERE, THERE...
HOW MUCH LONGER DO WE HAVE TO --
KING RANDOR DOES LOVE A GOOD SPEECH...
THAT LONG?!

THAT LONG?!
WHAT? YOU THOUGHT TH' CROPS'D ALL FALL TO IN NEAT ROWS ALL BY THEMSELVES?
NO. BUT--
GONNA TAKE SOME DOIN' T' SET RIGHT WHAT SKELETOR ORDERED SET WRONG.
BUT--
AIN'T NO "BUTS." YOU LIKE T' EAT, YOU WORK T' GROW. SIMPLE AS THAT.
NOW, WHICH ONE'A YOU'S GONNA RUN THE HARNESS 'N' WHICH IS GONNA WALK POINT FER ROCKS?
WHAT IN TH'--
WHAT IS IT, PA?!
Y'ASKIN' ME?!
EEE
EE-ESSKAA-AAKKTT!
BOYS! ANSWER ME, BOYS! ALWIN! DELWIN!

HUH. IF THEY ARE ALL THIS FRAGILE, THIS REALM IS AS GOOD AS OURS.

BOYS! YOU ANSWER YER PA! BOYS!

STATUS?
AS PROJECTED. BLANKET INSERTION. S.O.P.
TWENTY THIRD THROUGH SEVENTY SECOND BATTALIONS HAVE PUNCHED THROUGH AND ARE MOVING TO SECURE THEIR LOCATIONS.
THERE WILL BE RESISTANCE.
WHEN ISN'T THERE? DIVINATION CORE HAS FORESEEN THIS CONQUEST. THIS...ETERNIA HAS BEEN MUCH DIMINISHED.
DEATH IS KIN TO VICTORY AS MUCH AS TO DEFEAT.
SEE TO THE BOY. HE SUFFERS NEEDLESSLY.
CHOK
PRIMARY TARGET?
ETERNOS. SEVEN LAND MEASURES DUE EAST.
WE ARE THE CLOSEST INSERTION POINT?
AS ORDERED.
CHOK
PRIMARY FORCE UP THE MIDDLE. LET THEM SEE US COMING. SECONDARY FORCES STAND FLANK UNTIL MY SIGNAL.
WITH ANY LUCK ALL THEY'LL HAVE TO DO IS PICK OFF DESERTERS.
AS ORDERED.
WE'RE IN. NO RESISTANCE REPORTED YET, BUT THE DAY IS YOUNG. ONCE THEY DISCOVER THEY'VE BEEN INVADED--
IT WILL BE TOO LATE TO MOUNT MORE THAN TOKEN RESISTANCE.

AHHH... HOW I ENVY YOU, DESPARA. IT HAS BEEN EONS SINCE HORDAK LAST SAT OUT A CONQUEST.
A TESTAMENT TO YOUR FAITH IN ME?
A GIFT, FROM LOVING FATHER TO A DESERVING DAUGHTER.
DO NOT MAKE ME REGRET MY... GENEROSITY.
MY LIFE FOR YOU!
THAT GOES WITHOUT SAYING.

YOU ARE WITHIN STRIKING DISTANCE OF THE SEAT OF POWER?
ETERNOS. WE WILL BEGIN THE ATTACK WITHIN THE HOUR!
DO NOT LET YOUR CONFIDENCE MAKE YOU CARELESS.
THE TECHNOLOGICAL LEVEL HERE IS BARELY--
MAGIC, DESPARA. WHAT USE HAVE THEY FOR ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY WHEN THEY CAN WORK MAGIC?
THEIR MOST POWERFUL MAGE IS NO LONGER AMONG THEM.
NO. THE SKELETAL ONE HAS BEEN REMOVED FROM PLAY. MUCH TO OUR ADVANTAGE. BUT THERE IS ANOTHER OF CONCERN; A WARRIOR.
ALL WARRIORS ARE A CONCERN. SUCH IS WAR.
THIS REALM SHALL FALL. I WILL PRESENT IT TO YOU AS A GIFT, FROM A LOVING DAUGHTER TO--
YOU WILL PRESENT YOUR CONQUEST BECAUSE FAILURE IS NOT AN OPTION! DO NOT THINK YOURSELF ABOVE MY WRATH!
...AS ORDERED.

GRAYSKULL'S GRACE BUT THAT WAS *INTERMINABLE!*
TEELA! PLEASE! A LITTLE RESPECT FOR THE DEAD?
HOW DO WE KNOW SHE'S DEAD?
BEG PARDON?
FOR ALL WE KNOW SHE COULD HAVE JETTISONED HER ESSENCE BEFORE SKELETOR KILLED HER...POSSESSED A DUNGEON RAT OR--
OR A BIRD?
PRECISELY!
I WAS BEING FACETIOUS.
REALLY? HOW ARE THOSE RIBS COMING ALONG?
I DIDN'T SAY IT WAS A *REDBIRD.*
ON THE PLUS SIDE; ONE LESS MAGE. THAT'S GOT TO BE A GOOD THING.
TEELA!
THAT WAS... INTERESTING?
MY APOLOGIES, DEKKER. WHEN SHE STARTS RUNNING HER MOUTH--
REMINDS ME OF YOU A BIT, DUNCAN.
NOW *THAT* WAS UNCALLED FOR.
THUD
THUD

TEELA!
TEELA! ARE YOU--
#*%@#!!
SHE'S FINE.
WHAT HIT US?!
RIGHT NOW YOUR GUESS IS AS GOOD AS OURS!
BLESSED CREATOR...
KABOOM
ADAM, WHA...?
BADOOM

NO QUARTER! THEY SURRENDER OR THEY DIE!

SAVE SOME FOR ME!
IS SHE SERIOUS?!
AS A HEART ATTACK!
DUNCAN! MOST OF THE MASTERS ARE STILL HERE?!
ALL OF THEM ARE!
BOOM!
GET THEM ORGANIZED! LAYERED DEFENSE! FIRST WE HOLD, THEN WE PUSH BACK!
DEKKER! YOU GO WITH HIM!
AND YOU?
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME! DEFEND THE CITY!
AND IF ETERNOS IS UNDER ATTACK, WHAT OF THE REST OF ETERNIA?!
DON'T THINK ABOUT IT! FOCUS ON THE NOW!
BY THE POWER OF GRAYSKULL...

I HAVE THE POWER!

THERE! THE ENERGY SIGNATURE THE EMINENCE WARNED US OF!
THIS IS... THE READING IS OFF THE CHARTS!
WHERE?
WHERE?!
HOW DID YOU...?
KNEW YOU'D BE UP HERE!
YOU NEED ROOM TO DO THAT WHOLE "I HAVE THE POWER" THING. A LOT OF ENERGY COMES INTO PLAY THERE.
SO, WHO ARE WE KILLING?
TAKE YOUR CHOICE.
GRAYSKULL'S BANE, WHO ARE THEY?!
THEY ARE YOUR MASTERS.
WHO...?!
WHO CARES!? LET'S--
SHANG
SERVANTS SHOULD KNOW THEIR PLACE.

SHE IS NOT A SERVANT!
THROK!
MY FATHER WAS RIGHT TO BE CONCERNED.
YOU SHOULD TAKE YOUR LEAD FROM HIM.
DOES THIS FATHER HAVE A NAME? DO YOU?
TALKING TO...HER? KILL HER!
WHAT AM I SAYING? BIG LUNK WON'T HIT A WOMAN UNLESS SHE BLEEDS HIM FIRST...
PERHAPS YOU SHOULD TAKE YOUR LEAD FROM HER.
IF IT COMES TO THAT.
IT HAS COME...TO THAT! KILL HER!!
PRETEND SHE'S A GUY!
AH... WE THINK ALIKE, YOU AND I. A PITY WE MEET AT SWORD'S LENGTH. GIVEN OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES WE COULD BE FRIENDS.
!!
NO...NOT POSSIBLE... CAN'T BE!

ADORA?!
Well, wasn't that interesting...?
NEXT ISSUE: SISTER ACT!